

Message Text

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42

ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 OFA-01 SS-15 SP-02 L-03

INR-07 IO-10 PM-03 /065 W

----- 033332

P R 131418Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9894

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NY

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 2413

STADIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, EFIS, UK, IC, NO

SUBJ: LOS MINISTER EVENSEN'S MEETINGS IN LONDON AND REYKJAVIK

REF: (A) OSLO 2384; (OSLO 2311)

1. LOS MINISTER EVENSEN AND HIS POLITICAL SECRETARY, AREN TREHOLT, BRIEFED E/C COUNSELOR ON VISITS JUNE 9 AND 10 TO LONDON AND JUNE 11 TO REYKJAVIK. VISTS FOLLOWED SAME PATTERN AS RECENT TALKS WITH USSR, INCLUDING (A) GENERAL DISCUSSION OF EXTENSION OF FISHING LIMITS AND OF 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONES; (B) EVENSEN'S VIEWS ON NEED FOR COORDINATION OF ANY EXTENSION UNDERTAKEN AND OR LEGAL REGIME FOR AREAAS AFFECTED; (C) LOS CONFERENCE; AND (D) EVENSEN'S PLANS FOR EVENSEN GROUP (SEE REF B). IN ADDITION, EVENSEN BRIEFED U.K. AND ICELAND ON IS SOVIET TALKS AND DISCUSSED AMARASINGHE APPEAL. EVENSEN SAID HE EXPECTS DISCUSSIONS IN OTTAWA AND WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK BE SIMILIAR. CONFIDENTIAL

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2. IN LONDON EVENSEN MET WITHENNAALS FOR TWO HOURS AND A LUNCHEON. DISCUSSION WAS GENERAL IN CHARACTER. TREHOLT SAID BRITISH WERE "IN A MESS" BECAUSE OF DIFFICULTIES WITH EEC COMMON FISHING POLICY. THE

BRITISH HAVE ASKED THE EEC FOR TALKS TO REVISE THIS POLICY. THE TALKS WILL PROBABLY BEGIN DURING WEEK ENDING JUNE 21. BUT PROSPECTS ARE DIM. BRITISH TRAWLERS FISHERMEN ARE PUSHING HARD FOR TEVISION AND HAVE PROPOSED 200-MILE U.K. FISHING ZONE WITH FIRST 100 MILES FROM SHORE RESERVED FOR U.K. FISHERMEN AND SECOND 100 MILES OPEN TO EEC AND OTHER FISHERMEN WITH WHOM U.K. HAS FISHING AGREEMENTS. THIS PROPOSAL WILL FORM BASIS FOR INITIAL BRITISH NEGOTIATING POSITION WITH EEC, AND ENNALS HINTED IT WAS POSSIBLE U.K. MIGHT LATER SUGGEST PARALLEL AND SIMULTANEOUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH NORWAY.

3. BRITISH LEFT NORWEGIANS WITH CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT U.K. WAS AGAINST UNILATERAL EXTENSION OF FISHING LIMITS, BUT WOULD BE UNDERSTANDING IF NORWAY FORCED TO EXTEND UNILATERALLY. U.K. WILL NOT EXTEND ITS LIMITS UNLESS OTHER DO, BUT WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE UNHAPPY IF OTHERS DID SINCE THIS WOULD PUT PRESSURE ON EEC TO MODIFY IT S FISHING POLICY.

4. FISHING LIMITS AND LOS MATTERS ARE ON AGENDA FOR JUNE 18 MEETING BETWEEN NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND AND U.K. FOREIGN SEDRETARY CALLAGHAN, AND ENNALS OFFERED TO INCLUDE IN JOINT COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING THAT MEETING A STATEMENT THAT BOTH PARTIES WERE INTERESTED IN BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON FISHING LIMITS. EVENSEN JUMPED AT OFFER AS HELPFUL IN CONTAINING POLITICAL PRESSURE IN NORWAY FOR EARLY UNILATERAL EXTENSION. (EVENSEN HAS REPORTED TO PARLIAMENT THAT SOVIETS HAVE ALSO INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO HAVE FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WITH NORWAY ON FISHING LIMITS DURING LATTER PART OF THIRD QUARTER OR EARLY PART OF FOURTH QUARTER THIS YEAR. ALTHOUGH SOVIETS HAVE NOT SAID THIS PUBLICLY.) NEGOTIATIONS WOULD PROSUMABLY INVOLVE REGIME IN ECONOMIC ZONES AND RECIPROCOL FISHING RIGHTS.

5. ENNALS TOLD EVENSEN U.S. WAS IN A QUANDARY OVER CONFIDENTIAL

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ICELAND'S FAILURE TO RESPOND TO U.S. OVERTURES FOR NEGOTIATIONS OF FISHING RIGHTS WITHIN ICELAND'S 50MILE LIMIT. U.K.'S CURRENT RIGHTS EXPIRE ON NOVEMBER 13, AND ENNALS WISHES TO AVOID ANY REPETITION OF LAST YEAR'S COD WAR.

6. EVENSEN REFERRED TO AMARSINGHE APPEAL AT END OF GENEVA LOS CONFERENCE ASKING ALL COUNTRIES NOT TO TAKE UNILATERAL LOS ACTION. EVENSEN INTERPRETED APPEAL AS EXTENDING TO ALL AREAS BEING CONSIDERED BY LOS CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, BOTH U.K. AND ICELAND TOOK MORE LIMITED VIEW OF APPEAL, BELIEVING IT WAS BASICALLY DIRECTED TO DEEP SEA BED.

7. IN ICELAND EVENSEN MET WITH ENTIRE CABINET, LOS

LEGAL ADVISER ANDERSEN, THE FISHERIES COMMITTEE, AND THE PRIMEMINISTER. THE PRIME MINISTER TOLD HIM THAT ICELAND WOULD DECLARE A 200- MILE FISHING LIMIT IN MID-JULY WHICH WOULD ENTER INTO EFFECT ON NOVEMBER 13. MINISTER OF JUSTICE JOHANNESSEN TOOK A TOUGH LINE ON THE RIGHTS OF OTHER COUNTRIES WITHIN THIS 200 MILE ZONE, ALTHOUGH HE INDICATED THAT NORWAY, WHICH HAS FISHING RIGHTS WITHIN ICELAND'S CURRENT 50-MILE ZONE, WOULD BE FAVORABLY TREATED. HOWEVER, HE TOLD EVENSEN THE U.K. WOULD BE GIVEN NO FIGHTS AFTER NOVEMBER 13 UNLESS WEST GERMANY REACHED AGREEMENT ON FISHING WITH ICELAND. WHILE NATO WAS NOT MENTIONED, JOHANNESSEN MADE IT CLEAR HE EXPECTED U.K. TO PRESS WEST GERMANY TO COME TO TERMS. EVENSEN'S REMARK THAT ENNALS HAD A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD ICELANDIC FISHING DID NOT SOFTEN THIS HARD LINE.

8. THERE WAS LITTLE DISCUSSION OF THE REGIME ICELAND PLANNED WITHIN ITS 200-MILE ZONE, ALTHOUGH ANDERSEN INDICATED IT WOULD BE BASED ON SINGLE CONVENTION. ANDERSEN AND EVENSEN WILL MEET AGAIN DURING FIRST INTERIM SESSION OF EVENSEN GROUP AT END OF AUGUST, AND EVENSEN AGREED TO BRING WITH HIM AN OUTLINE OF A PROPOSED 200-MILE FISHING ZONE LEGISLATIVE REGIME.

9. SUBJECT TO TREATMENT OF JAN MAYEN WAS NOT DISCUSSED IN DETAIL BY MUTUAL CONSENT. IT WAS AGREED THAT ISSUE COULD BE DEALT WITH LATER, AND
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NORWEGIANS POINTED OUT THAT NAY CONESSION OT ICELAND WITH RESPECT TO JAN MAYEN MIGHT ADVERSELY AFFECT THEIR OFF-SHORE BOUNDARY NEGOTIATING POSITION WITH SOVIETS.
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, MEETING PROCEEDINGS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OSLO02413
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750207-0028
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197506103/baaaatue.tel
Line Count: 147
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <25 SEP 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PLOS, EFIS, OVIP, UK, IC, NO, (EVENSEN, JENS)
To: STATE INFO BONN
EC BRUSSELS
GENEVA
LONDON
USUN NY
REYKJAVIK

OTTAWA

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006